

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

determining a start of reception of radio signals by a radio;

generating a radio active signal;

transmitting the radio active signal to a coupled computer to affect the radio interference generated by the coupled computer;

determining an end of reception of radio signals by the radio;

generating a radio not active signal; and

transmitting the radio not active signal to the coupled computer to affect the radio interference generated by the coupled computer.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein determining the start of reception comprises predicting the start time of an assigned time slot.
3. The method of Claim 2, wherein predicting the start time comprises predicting the start time using a timing reference of the radio.
4. The method of Claim 2, wherein the assigned time slot is a receive time slot assigned to the coupled computer and wherein predicting the start time comprises predicting the start time using the coupled computer's clock as a timing reference.
5. The method of Claim 1, wherein transmitting the radio active signal comprises asserting a state on a connector between the radio and the coupled computer.
6. The method of Claim 5, wherein transmitting the radio not active signal comprises de-asserting the state on the connector between the radio and the coupled computer.

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein transmitting the radio active signal comprises sending an instruction over a high speed system bus to the coupled computer.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein sending an instruction comprises sending an interrupt signal to CPU operating software of the coupled computer.

9. The method of Claim 7, wherein sending an instruction comprises sending an instruction to a power management module of the coupled computer.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein transmitting the radio not active signal comprises sending a hardware interrupt to wake the CPU of the coupled computer.

11. The method of Claim 1, wherein the radio active signal and the radio not active signal comprise a single signal indicating the start time and the duration of the radio reception.

12. The method of Claim 1, wherein determining the end of reception comprises predicting the end of reception based on the start time and the expected duration of reception.

13. A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

determining a start of reception of radio signals by a radio;

generating a radio active signal;

transmitting the radio active signal to a coupled computer to affect the radio interference generated by the coupled computer;

determining an end of reception of radio signals by the radio;

generating a radio not active signal; and

transmitting the radio not active signal to the coupled computer to affect the radio interference generated by the coupled computer.

14. The medium of Claim 13, wherein instructions for determining the start of reception comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising predicting the start time of an assigned time slot.

15. The medium of Claim 14, wherein the instructions for predicting the start time comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising predicting the start time using a timing reference of the radio.

16. The medium of Claim 13, wherein the instructions for transmitting the radio active signal comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising sending an instruction over a high speed system bus to the coupled computer.

17. The medium of Claim 16, wherein the instructions for sending an instruction comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising sending an instruction to a power management module of the coupled computer.

18. The medium of Claim 13, wherein the radio active signal and the radio not active signal comprise a single signal indicating the start time and the duration of the radio reception.

19. The medium of Claim 13, wherein the instructions for determining the end of reception comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the

machine to perform further operations comprising predicting the end of reception based on the start time and the expected duration of reception.

20. A radio comprising:

a receiver;

a processor to determine a start of reception of radio signals by the receiver and generate a radio active signal and to determine an end of reception of radio signals by the receiver and generate a radio not active signal; and

an external interface to transmit the radio active signal and the radio not active signal to a coupled computer to affect the radio interference generated by the coupled computer.

21. The radio of Claim 20, further comprising a timing reference coupled to the processor for use in determining the start of reception and the end of reception by prediction.

22. The radio of Claim 20, further comprising a connector between the radio and the coupled computer coupled to the external interface and wherein the external interface transmits the radio active signal by asserting a state on the connector.

23. The radio of Claim 22, wherein the external interface transmits the radio not active signal by de-asserting the state on the connector.

24. The radio of Claim 20, wherein the radio active signal comprises an interrupt signal to CPU operating software of the coupled computer.

25. The radio of Claim 20, wherein the radio active signal comprises an instruction to a power management module of the coupled computer.

26. The radio of Claim 20, wherein the radio active signal and the radio not active signal comprise a single signal indicating the start time and the duration of the radio reception.

27. A method comprising:
receiving a radio active signal at a computer having a CPU from a coupled radio;
adjusting system operating parameters of the computer to reduce interference with the radio;

receiving a radio not active signal at the computer from the coupled radio; and
readjusting the system operating parameters of the computer for operation without regard to interference with the radio.

28. The method of Claim 27, further comprising polling the coupled radio for a radio active signal before receiving the radio active signal.

29. The method of Claim 27, further comprising predicting a start time for reception by the radio based on a time slot assigned to the radio and wherein adjusting the system operating parameters comprises adjusting the system operating parameters for the duration of the time slot.

30. The method of Claim 29, wherein the assigned time slot is a receive time slot and wherein predicting the start time comprises predicting the start time using the computer's clock as a timing reference.

31. The method of Claim 27, wherein receiving the radio active signal comprises detecting the assertion of a state on a connector between the radio and the computer.

32. The method of Claim 31, wherein receiving the radio not active signal comprises detecting the de-assertion of the state on the connector between the radio and the computer.

33. The method of Claim 27, wherein receiving the radio active signal comprises receiving an instruction over a communications bus coupled to the coupled radio.

34. The method of Claim 33, wherein receiving an instruction comprises receiving an interrupt signal to CPU operating software of the computer.

35. The method of Claim 33, wherein receiving an instruction comprises receiving an instruction to a power management module of the computer.

36. The method of Claim 27, wherein receiving the radio not active signal comprises receiving a hardware interrupt to wake the CPU of the computer.

37. The method of Claim 27, wherein the radio active signal and the radio not active signal comprise a single signal indicating the start time and the duration of the radio reception.

38. The method of Claim 27, wherein adjusting the system operating parameters comprises reducing the system clock rate.

39. The method of Claim 27, wherein adjusting the system operating parameters comprises turning off a CPU clock of the computer.

40. The method of Claim 27, wherein adjusting the system operating parameters comprises interrupting traffic on the computer system bus.

41. The method of Claim 27, wherein adjusting the system operating parameters comprises suspending operation of selected peripheral components of the computer.

42. A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

receiving a radio active signal at a computer having a CPU from a coupled radio;
adjusting system operating parameters of the computer to reduce interference with the radio;

receiving a radio not active signal at the computer from the coupled radio; and
readjusting the system operating parameters of the computer for operation without regard to interference with the radio.

43. The medium of Claim 42, further comprising instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising the coupled radio for a radio active signal before receiving the radio active signal.

44. The medium of Claim 42, further comprising instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising predicting a start time for reception by the radio based on a time slot assigned to the radio and wherein adjusting the system operating parameters comprises adjusting the system operating parameters for the duration of the time slot.

45. The medium of Claim 42, wherein the instructions for receiving the radio active signal comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the

machine to perform further operations comprising detecting the assertion of a state on a connector between the radio and the computer.

46. The medium of Claim 42, wherein the instructions for receiving the radio active signal comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising receiving an instruction over a communications bus coupled to the coupled radio.

47. The medium of Claim 46, wherein the instructions for receiving an instruction comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising receiving an interrupt signal to CPU operating software of the computer.

48. The medium of Claim 42, wherein the instructions for adjusting the system operating parameters comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising reducing the system clock rate.

49. The medium of Claim 42, wherein the instructions for adjusting the system operating parameters comprise instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising turning off a CPU clock of the computer.

50. A computer comprising:

an I/O bus to receive a radio active signal and a radio not active signal from a coupled radio; and

a CPU coupled to the bus to adjust system operating parameters of the computer to reduce interference with the radio in response to the radio active signal and to readjust

the system operating parameters of the computer for operation without regard to interference with the radio in response to the radio not active.

51. The computer of Claim 50, further comprising a timing reference clock to use in predicting a start time for reception by the radio in response to the radio active signal.

52. The computer of Claim 50, further comprising a connector coupled to the I/O bus and wherein the I/O bus receives the radio active signal by detecting the assertion of a state on the connector.

53. The computer of Claim 52, wherein the I/O bus receives the radio not active signal by detecting the de-assertion of the state on the connector.

54. The computer of Claim 50, wherein the radio active signal comprises an interrupt signal to the CPU.

55. The computer of Claim 54, further comprising a power management module coupled to the CPU to receive an instruction from the CPU to execute power management functions to reduce interference.

56. The computer of Claim 50, wherein the radio not active signal comprises a hardware interrupt to wake the CPU.

57. The computer of Claim 50, wherein the radio active signal and the radio not active signal comprise a single signal indicating the start time and the duration of the radio reception.

58. The computer of Claim 50, wherein interference is reduced by reducing the system clock rate.

59. The computer of Claim 50, wherein interference is reduced by turning off a CPU clock of the computer.

60. The computer of Claim 50, wherein interference is reduced by interrupting traffic on the computer system bus.

61. The computer of Claim 50, wherein interference is reduced by suspending operation of selected peripheral components of the computer.

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